FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

The IDF closed all crossing points between Israel and Lebanon on both the Al-Awwali River line and the international border in order to tighten security arrangements at the crossing points, Jerusalem radio reported. The move follows the 2 April attack in Jerusalem carried out by "terrorists" who entered Israel from Lebanon, the radio said, and "it is known" that two of the men were residents of Sidon. The DFLP, which claimed responsibility for the operation, announced in Damascus that its forces in Lebanon captured an IDF sergeant whose release will be conditional on the release of the men captured in the Jerusalem attack and various other prisoners held by Israel, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The Israeli soldier, a member of Israel's Druze community, has been missing for a year, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement cited by Jerusalem radio.

Reacting to recent attacks on the IDF in southern Lebanon, Defense Minister Moshe Arens warned Syria in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio that Israel will not accept a war of attrition. The Syrians are able to stop attacks on the IDF originating from the area under their control, Arens noted, and "if they attempt such a war, they must be ready for any reaction by us."

Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that seven Israeli soldiers were wounded in an ambush near An-Nabatiyah. In the wake of other recent attacks against the IDF, Israeli troops stormed and searched houses in Sidon and moved more than 240 residents of Jibshit to the Ansar detention camp, the radio said.

In another development concerning the south, Antoine Lahad, a Maronite Christian with the rank of general in the Lebanese Army reserves, will take over as commander of the 2,000-strong southern Lebanese army sponsored by Israel, Jerusalem radio reported.

Beirut radio reported that clashes continued on all combat axes in the capital on 3-4 April. The Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio blamed the cease-fire violations on the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and its allies, but the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio accused the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army of attempting an advance in central Beirut which was "repulsed" by nationalist forces.

Lebanese newspapers cited by Beirut radio announced that President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad have agreed to hold another summit in the near future to discuss matters which still impede implementation of the Lausanne conference resolutions. President al-Jumayyil discussed Soviet policy toward Lebanon with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, the radio noted. "Informed political sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AS-SIYASAH* indicated that Al-Jumayyil may ask the Soviet Union to supply Lebanon with arms in view of U.S. reluctance to ship further weapons following the capture of U.S.-made tanks and missiles by the PSP, which handed some of them over to Soviet experts.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in a statement in the YAR reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, described the 2 April operation in Jerusalem as "a message from the Palestinian people, who will not forget the Sabra and Shatila massacre."

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqis have no hope of recapturing Majnun Island, having flooded their only access point in the southern part of the island, President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio.

Iraqi antiaircraft batteries shot down one of the Iranian Phantoms that raided 'Ali al-Gharbi on 30 March, a military communique carried by Baghdad radio reported. An Indian ship in the Shatt al-'Arab was set on fire by Iranian shelling, the communique added.

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Karmal Speaks on Sarandoy Role, Party Unity

LD041019 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this afternoon took part in a meeting of party activists of all units and companies of the DRA Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Babrak Karmal, accompanied by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, and other Politburo members and members of the Central Committee Secretariat arrived at the Salam Khana Palace of the Revolutionary Council Headquarters where the meeting was held at 1500. He was welcomed with revolutionary fervor and enthusiasm. The participants in the meeting gave Babrak Karmal a standing ovation and chanted revolutionary slogans.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from the meeting that Babrak Karmal then made a comprehensive and instructive statement. He began by asking the participants of the meeting to stand up and observe a minute of silence in honor of those heroic sarandoys who lost their lives in the path of the glorious April Revolution.

Babrak Karmal said: Officers, NCO's, and Internal Ministry troops must know that the PDPA Central Committee, Politburo, and Secretariat, the DRA Revolutionary Council, and the Council of Ministers always and consistently pay special attention to the brave sarandoy of Afghanistan. We must also recall with pride that our sincere friend and brother, the Soviet Union, does not spare any kind of material and moral help for which, on behalf of the PDPA, the DRA state and Government, and on your behalf, I express my profound gratitude and thanks to the Soviet friends.

Comrades, you know that after the April Revolution, as a turning point in the socioeconomic, political, and cultural life of the country, and particularly after the new stage, fundamental changes have occurred in all aspects of the sarandoy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This fact has always been assessed highly in the Politburo, the Central Committee, and the Council of Ministers.

Babrak Karmal added: Before the April Revolution, the sarandoy, or to give them their true name then, police and gendarmes, were the protectors of the interests of a handful, of the minority and exploiting class of the abolished monarchy machinery, and of the fake republic. The police of that time were a tool for the pressure, torture, and persecution of the toiling people of Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal said: In accordance with the theory and practice of liberating revolutions, the first duty of the new machinery, that is, the sovereignty of the people, is to eradicate all the people torturing machinery. For the first time in the history of our country, after the April Revolution, particularly its new stage, the oppressive police and gendarme forces were eliminated and the foundations for a new sarandoy and a new Ministry of Internal Affairs were laid.

Babrak Karmal said: This meeting has been held to assess the positive aspects of your actions. Your actions will be recorded in the history of the revolutionary movement and the party and state of the new era of the DRA. It is best that we realize our tasks, entrusted to us by the 13th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee.

Babrak Karmal added: It is not possible to defeat the enemy with mere slogans. This war is a class war; this war is being intensified. Reaction and imperialism do not give up easily; they resist, in vain, to losing their power. It is the deep voice of the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan, it is the voice of the revolution and the voice of our party and state, it is the voice of our duty and our homeland to fight against the enemy in the hot crucible of class struggle. Our weapon, our power, the secret of our victory, and the major factor for the victory of our revolution are concentrated in one point, and that is the strength of our party. History has proved that without a strong party with steel-like discipline and with unity of will, theory, and action, it is impossible to bring a revolution to victory. It was under the leadership of our party that the April Revolution was brought to victory.

Babrak Karmal said: We can only accomplish our great revolutionary tasks and fulfill our pledges before the altar of the homeland when we act and struggle under the leadership, instruction, and order of the party.

In the course of a critical assessment, Babrak Karmal once again emphasized the total unity of the party: All members of the party should consider the unity of the party as their honor, wisdom, and conscience and should struggle with all their power and strength in this way.

Karachi: Mujahidin Down Soviet Plane in Balkh

BK040324 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a Soviet plane with antiaircraft fire in the Sholgara subdivisional headquarters of Balkh Province. All 17 soldiers aboard the plane were killed. Mujahidin also attacked a military convoy going to Kabul near the provincial headquarters in (Amelkhel) and destroyed four tanks of the Karmal regime, Another report says two more tanks were destroyed in the village (Tappa Sardar) through landmines. The tank crew members were killed.

Soyuz T-11 Launched 'Smoothly, On Schedule'

BK031405 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Soyuz T-11 shot into space at 1838 Indian Standard Time from Baykonur Cosmodrome in the Soviet Union carrying the Indian cosmonaut, Rakesh Sharma. With this, India enters a new era of space exploration. Accompanying Mr Rakesh Sharma are the two Soviet cosmonauts, Commander Yuriy Malyashev and Flight Engineer Gennadiy Mikhalovich Strekalov.

The blast off went off smoothly and on schedule. The spacecraft, which is 6.98 meters long and weighs about 6.8 tons, has two solar panels which are deployed during the orbital phase.

Punjab, Chandigarh Declared 'Dangerously Disturbed'

BK040306 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] The entire state of Punjab and the union territory of Chandigarh have been declared dangerously disturbed areas under the provisions of the Armed Forces and Chandigarh Special Powers Acts, 1983. The notifications were signed by the Punjab governor and the chief commissioner of the union territory of Chandigarh late last night.

Our Chandigarh correspondent, P.J. Strehan, reports that the notification empowers the security forces, including the state police, Central Reserve Police Force, and the border security forces with wide powers to effectively deal with the situation prevailing in the state. This will also enable paramilitary forces to make arrests and search premises and vehicles suspected to be used for terrorist activities and other illegal purposes without any warrant. The notification also empowers the official of the rank of noncommissioned officer or above of such forces to fire upon or otherwise use force, even to the extent of causing death, for the purpose of maintaining public order and peace within the area notified as disturbed. Such forces can also destroy any arms dump, prepared or fortified positions, or shelters from which armed attacks are made or likely to be made. Our correspondent says the Punjab Government had earlier notified the districts of Amritsar, Gurdaspur, and Kapurthala and subdistricts of Pathankot and Phagwara as dangerously disturbed areas.

Meanwhile, no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere in Punjab since last evening. An official spokesman told our correspondent this morning that the situation in Amritsar, which witnessed a number of violent incidents yesterday, is now fully under control. The spokesman clarified that eight persons, including one policeman, were killed yesterday as a result of incidents of violence, arson, and subsequent police firing.

The curfew has, however, been extended in all the five towns where it was imposed earlier as a precautionary measure. In Amritsar, it has been extended till Friday [6 April] in Jullundur, Ludhiana, and Khanna till tomorrow morning. In Patiala the curfew is ending at 0800 this morning but is likely to be further extended.

Amritsar Reported 'Under Control Though Tense'

BK040926 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] The situation in Amritsar, though tense, is under control. Our correspondent reports that shops opened and traffic resumed this morning in areas where curfew is not in force. Buses are plying. According to an official spokesman, a laborer of a brick kiln in (Miawind) near Amritsar captured one of the two persons who threw a hand grenade at the kiln. It did not explode. The total death toll in yesterday's incidents has risen to nine with the death of one more person.

And in Delhi, more shops are closed today in response to a general strike called by the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP]. This is in protest against the killings in Punjab and the murder of the party leader, Mr Harbans Lal Khanna. Essential services, including bus, water, and electricity, have been exempted. Government offices, banks, and educational insitutions are open.

Some BJP volunteers courted arrest, violating the prohibitory order in force. They include the party leader, Mr Kedarnath Sahni, and Mr Madan Lal Khurana. Agency reports say that shops and business centers were also closed in most parts of Haryana, Jammu, and Himachal Pradesh. So far, no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere.

Delhi Braces for Strike; Security Tightened

BK040318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Prohibitory orders under Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more peeple] have been imposed throughout the capital to maintain law and order in the wake of the general strike called by the Bhartiya Janata Party today to protest against the killings in Punjab. The lieutenant governor, Mr Jagmohan, reviewed the arrangements at a high-level meeting. He also urged the officials to ensure normal functioning of the essential services. A senior police official told our correspondent this morning that security measures in the capital have been tightened and all the police pickets have been strengthened.

AFP: Nearly 200 Arrested

BK041303 Hong Kong AFP in English 1242 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpts] New Delhi, April 4 (AFP) — Police arrested nearly 200 people here today as Hindus launched a day-long general strike to protest killings by suspected Sikh militants in the northwestern state of Punjab, official sources said.

Authorities boosted security and barred public gatherings as major pro-Hindu opposition parties increased pressure on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's federal government to deal firmly with Sikh extremists in Punjab or to quit.

Police said they used batons to disperse mobs during minor clashes, brick-throwing incidents or attempts to deflate tyres of public buses in the densely populated walled city of old Delhi and in western districts.

In old Delhi, over 130 supporters of the pro-Hindu "Bharatiya Janata Party" (Indian People's Party) which called towards general strike took to the streets, demanding firm action against Sikh extremists and the resignation of Mrs. Gandhi's government for its "inability to save innocent lives."

There was no violence but all the demonstrators were arrested for violating prohibitory orders, police said.

Another 40 backers of the "Lok Dal" (People's Party) were taken into custody when they tried to stage a 24-hour sit-in outside Mrs. Gandhi's official residence in defiance of prohibitory orders, they added.

Contrary to earlier press reports, Punjab's two neighbouring states — Haryana and Himachal Pradesh — were also staging a similar strike today, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency said.

In Haryana, a government spokesman quoted by PTI, said in Chandigarh that the strike there was total and peaceful.

PTI said police and para-military forces were conducting intensive patrolling in sensitive areas of the state such as Karnal, Panipat, Yamuna Nagar and Ambala towns. Panipat has been the scene of serious Hindu-Sikh tension in February.

There were no reports of violence in the capital where the majority of trading centers were closed. Touring journalists said that state-run buses still plied the streets and life appeared to be otherwise normal.

Sethi: Bangladesh Protests, Fence Work Continues

BK040945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Work on fencing the Indo-Bangla border has begun. Initially, the job has been undertaken at a point where the bordersof Dhubri district in Assam, West Dinajpur in West Bengal, and Bangladesh meet. The home minister said this while answering supplementaries during question time in the Lok Sabha today.

Mr P.C. Sethi said Bangladesh has protested against the measure to the Indian high commissioner in Dhaka but the text has not reached the center so far. However, he said, the concerned authorities have been asked to go ahead with the work in a 100-km stretch at the trijunction of Assam, West Bengal, and Bangladesh. Ultimately, the entire 3,200-km border between the two countries will be fenced.

Mr P.C. Sethi said work on checking and deporting infiltrators from Bangladesh has also been taken up by the governments of West Bengal and Bihar. Some Pakistani nationals who have been staying illegally in Maharashtra will also be removed, he said.

Rahim Addresses Lok Sabha on Sri Lanka Situation

BK031051 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] India has emphasized the utmost importance of taking steps to restore confidence and instill a sense of security among the minorities in Sri Lanka so that they do not feel compelled to come to India. This was stated by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr A.A. Rahim, in the Lok Sabha today while making a statement on the situation in Sri Lanka. He said in the present critical situation it is all the more necessary that renewed efforts should be made to work out a political solution which would be acceptable to all communities in Sri Lanka.

Iranian Special Envoy Arrives 2 April

BK030435 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Iranian deputy foreign minister and special envoy of President 'Ali Khamene'i arrived in New Delhi yesterday. He is expected to apprise Mrs Gandhi of the latest situation in the Gulf war in view of her forthcoming visit to four nations from the 7th of this month. He is also carrying a message for her. During Mrs Gandhi's week's visit, she will hold discussions with leaders of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Egypt in a bid to end the Iran-Iraq war and to find a solution to the Palestinian issue.

Reportage on Federal Advisory Council Discussion

BK031653 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] It was stated in Majlis-i-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council] today that Pakistan remains committed to a policy aimed at the preservation of its sovereign and independent foreign policy firmly rooted in nonalignment. The law minister, Mr Sharifuddin Pirzada, on behalf of the foreign minister told the house that Pakistan's position on Afghanistan problem is based on principles. Pakistan joins the call of the international community for the restoration of independent and nonaligned status of Afghanistan. Foreign interference in that country has not only resulted in the influx of 3 million refugees on Pakistan's soil, but has also shattered the strategic equilibrium of the region.

He was speaking on an adjournment motion sought to be moved by Mr Mumtaz Ahmad Taran. The mover wanted to discuss the allegation that the Afghan mujahidin are being trained in Pakistan. After the minister's statement, the mover did not press his motion.

Speaking on an identical adjournment motion sought to be moved by Syed Khalilur Rahman Chisti and Mr Mumtaz Ahmad Taran, the law minister said that 42 people, including 5 Afghan nationals, were killed when two MIG's of the Karmal regime violated Pakistan's airspace near Angur Adda [on 27 January].

He recalled the president's statement in Peshawar that Pakistan is fully capable of countering any violation of its territory and airspace. It has desisted from doing so for the sake of regional peace but made it clear that our peaceful attitude should not be taken as weakness. The movers did not press their motion.

Speaking on yet another adjournment motion, the law minister said it is the duty of every state to safeguard the life, liberty, and security of its citizens without distinction of race or religion. The Pakistan Government respects the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. The mover, Mian Abdul Rauf, who sought to discuss the reported anti-Muslim riots in the Indian state of Maharashtra, did not press his motion.

Law Minister: No Foreign Bases

BK030718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Federal Advisory Council was categorically told that there is no foreign base on Pakistani soil and there is no question to permit any foreign power to set up its headquarters or any such facility here.

Making a statement on behalf of the foreign minister, Law Minister Sharifuddin Pirzada said this has been explained in official statements and the president also has made policy statements in this connection on many occasions in no uncertain terms. He said that the propaganda about Pakistan allowing foreign bases is being indulged by mass media of a few countries and that this has been appropriately denied.

Finance Minister on Islamization of Economy

BK251227 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] The federal finance minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has said the government has completed a significant phase in the process of Islamization of the economy and is now poised for major new initiatives to complete the transition toward a completely interest-free economic system. He was addrassing the international seminar on Islamic banking in Islamabad this morning.

He said Pakistan has been in the vanguard of the search for establishing a new Islamic order. Considerable progress, he said, has been achieved toward establishing an alternative financial system free from the evil of riba [interest]. The opening of separate counters in 7,000 branches of the nationalized commerical banks for accepting interest-free deposits are a proof to this success. Deposits in these accounts of PLS [profit and loss sharing] have rapidly grown to more than 20,000 million rupees by the beginning of March this year.

The finance minister said a number of specialized financial institutions have been fully converted into Islamic system of banking, working on the profit and loss sharing basis. He referred to the [word indistinct], the removal of interest system from national trust units, Investment Corporation of Pakistan, and other organizations, such as House Building Finance Corporation and Small Business Finance Corporation. Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said now he intends to consolidate the gains achieved in this field and remove all sources of riba from the banking system. He said so far an amount of 3,300 million rupees have been collected as zakat [Islamic taxes]. Of this, 2,800 million rupees have been distributed among 1.7 million mustahiqqeen [deserving people], and steps [word indistinct] for their permanent rehabilitation. He said 22 projects have been set up by the Zakat Foundation for the rehabilitation of the mustahiqqeen.

FRG Economic Delegation Arrives 26 March

BK261700 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] A high-level economic delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany arrived in Islamabad today. The delegation is to explore the possibilities of further strengthening the existing economic relations between Pakistan and the FRG. The delegation is led by FRG Economic Cooperation Minister Dr Juergen Warnke. Talking to newsmen at the airport, he said that there have been vast scopes of increasing economic cooperation between the two countries.

Ministerial Meetings

BK280249 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The FRG economic cooperation minister, Mr Juergen Warnke, at a meeting with the federal minister for planning and

development, Dr Mahbubul Haq, in Islamabad yesterday evening discussed matters pertaining to cooperation between the two countries in a number of projects and areas. The federal planning minister briefed the FRG minister about the development strategy, especially the measures for increasing country's capability to harness resources and implement various programs, as envisaged in the sixth 5-year plan.

The FRG minister also met with the federal finance minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and discussed German assistance to Pakistan in the fields of energy and telecommunication.

Inauguration of Sawmill

BK281100 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] A medium-size sawmill was inaugurated near Mansehra today by the visiting Federal German minister for economic cooperation, Dr Juergen Warnke. The 11.5-million-rupee mill is part of a 120-million-rupee Pak-German forestry project. Speaking on the occasion, the Federal German minister said that his country would provide an additional financial assistance of about 7 million rupees during the next financial year for the woodcutting machinery and construction of roads.

PAKISTAN TIMES on Nuclear Aid to Malaysia

GF041116 Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN TIMES English 27 Mar 84 pp 1,8

[Report by staff correspondent: "Pakistan To Help Set Up N-Plants"]

[Text] Dato Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohammad, the prime minister of Malaysia, has said that he considered existence of strong bonds of friendship, co-operation and understanding between Malaysia and Pakistan "very important" because it will not only ensure peace in South-East Asia but also bring Muslim countries closer together.

Addressing a press conference here this morning prior to this departure for Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian prime minister also said that "nuclear science was not the monopoly of any body" and the developing countries have every right to acquire this knowledge.

Pakistani nuclear scientists, he said, will help Malaysia in setting up nuclear power plants to harness energy in his country.

Dr Mahathir said that countries which possessed nuclear technology are jealous or parting with their knowledge gained in this field and did not want others to stand in line with them.

Replying to a question that nuclear powers may not like Pakistan and Malaysia co-operate in sharing this knowledge and might try to create difficulties in the execution of their plans, Dr Mahathir agreed that a lot of obstructions would be created but given firm determination any hurdles that are put to block co-operation in sharing nuclear technology would be overcome.

The prime minister said that he was much impressed by the work being done at PINSTECH [Pakistan Institute of Technology] by Pakistani scientists and expressed happiness that Pakistan has been able to overcome the problems that came its way.

He stressed that smaller nations must work hard and instead of looking towards nuclear powers for assistance we must ourselves through research and hard work develop technologies to match with those already in existence.

Dr Mahathir said that God has gifted Muslims with immense knowledge and we are much more advanced but regretted that we have become passive and have failed to take full advantage of our resources and talents.

He urged that Muslims must concentrate on studies and strengthen our own basis of knowledge. "Malaysia will go with Pakistan and co-operation in the nuclear field between the two countries will continue," he declared.

In this context he suggested formation of groups among smaller nations on the pattern of the Association of South-east Asia Nations (ASEAN) and South-South Co-operation.

The prime minister said that there was need for forging better understanding between the people of Malaysia and Pakistan and suggested that leaders and businessmen should travel more frequently between the two countries. With the introduction of Malaysian National Airlines flights to Karachi travel between Malaysia and Pakistan should become easier, he said.

Dr Mahathir further discussed that in order to overcome the shortage of doctors his government has agreed to acquire the services of general duty doctors besides specialists from Pakistan.

Reply to a question on Afghanistan, the prime minister said that his government was in full agreement with Pakistan's stand on this important issue. "We have been trying to collect money to help Afghan refugees in Pakistan," he said. He said an office for Afghan refugees will be established in Kuala Lumpur to have a better liaison and understanding of the Afghan refugee problem.

He appreciated the process of Islamisation started here and said that one should not expect miracles to happen overnight. "We don't have to rush," he said and added that steps have been taken in right direction here and encouraging progress has been achieved.

NAWA-E WAQT Urges Politicians' Release, Talks

GF310830 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 27 Mar 84 P 3

[Editorial: "Talk of Open Doors!"]

[Excerpts] In answer to a question by a correspondent as to whether the political situation is returning to normal, President Ziaul Haq said at Karachi Airport that the government has not procrastinated on the question of talks with politicians. In fact, its doors are always open for them and they can talk whenever they want; there is no need to issue personal invitations for this purpose.

This announcement to call politicians for talks is very surprising, in the sense that those politicians with whom discussions could prove fruitful are still in prison! Nawabzada Nusrullah Khan, Asghar Khan, Mustafa Jatoi, Khwaja Khairuddin, etc are still in jail or under house arrest at present. Until these people are released, it is ridiculous to say that they can hold negotiations whenever they want. If these leaders are released, it is a bit too much to expect that they will enter into talks without any invitation to do so even if the government's doors are open!

No decent person enters another's house even if the doors are open, unless he is invited. If the president considers that the present situation merits discussions with them, then the leaders should be released without any further imprisonment and they should be called to participate in discussions so that with mutual negotiations, exchange of opinions and understanding, some positive results may be achieved.

It has not yet been decided whether the elections will be held on a party or nonparty basis, whether the future system will be parliamentary or presidential or midway between the two? The president has said that elections will be held on an Islamic basis, but he has not elaborated. What will be the legal implications if a voter is denied the right to vote? What will the amendments to the 1973 Constitution be — which have been proposed by the president? There are many such questions that remain unanswered and need clarification.

A lot of valuable time has been wasted which can never be replaced. The time which remains must be better utilized. Negotiations with politicians must be initiated without delay and ambivalence. First, they should be released and then invited for talks. Merely keeping the doors open does not mean that any decent man will walk in, as our eastern customs do not permit this!

BANGLADESH

Another Protest Issued on Indian Border Action

BK040944 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0900 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] BSS reported that Bangladesh has lodged another strong protest with India today against India's erection of a structure in the middle of the Bangladesh-India border. The acting Indian high commissioner in Dhaka was summoned to the Foreign Office and handed another protest note on this issue. In the protest note, Bangladesh has once again called upon India to refrain from violating border principles and to keep peace at the border.

Begum Zia Issues Statement on Independence Day

BK311455 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Mar 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Begum Khaleda Zia, Chairman of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), in a statement on Sunday on the eve of Independence Day, renewed the pledge to establish democracy through united struggle. She also reiterated her party's total commitment to realise the 5-point demand and to build a happy and prosperous Bangladesh to make independence meaningful to the teeming millions.

Begum Zia recalled the supreme sacrifice of the valiant sons of the soil in 1971 for liberating the country from the clutches of the occupation army. She said that the people made supreme sacrifice in 1971 to establish an exploitation-free democratic Bangladesh where the people would be the master of their affairs including free choice of government through exercises of adult franchise.

Begum Khaleda Zia regretted that even after 13 years of liberation of the country democracy could not take firm root in our country. The democratically elected government was overthrown by the present martial law government, she added. Begum Zia alleged that the situation at present was worse. Repression on students, workers and even women has become rampant, she held.

Begum Zia hoped that the students, workers and people of the country would fight unitedly to fulfil the dreams of the martyrs for establishing a democratic, progressive and prosperous Bangladesh.

NEPAL

Forest Ministry Official Moved to Law, Justice

BK040246 Hong Kong AFP in English 0226 GMT 4 Apr 84

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Katmandu, April 4 (AFP) — Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand has removed Bishnu Manden as minister of state for forest and soil conservation amid controversy over his handling of timber and log licenses. But Mr Manden was transferred to the Law and Justice Ministry, prompting criticism that the prime minister was "half-hearted" for failing to sack a person who had been widely attacked as a trouble maker.

The law and justice post has been vacant since former minister Bakhan Singh Gurung died in December. Meanwhile the forest and soil conservation portfolio was given to Jog Mehar Shrestha, minister for Panchayat and local development, it was announced yesterday.

Political critics charged that during his nine months in office, Mr Manden distributed timber and log licenses indiscriminately, eroding the prime minister's reputation as a scourge of corruption.

While in opposition, one of Mr Chand's main criticisms of former Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa was that he permitted the rapid destruction of forests for his personal interest.

Mr Thapa's supporters in the National Panchayat (parliament) are now making the same charges against Premier Chand, observers here said. Mr Chand was asked to form a govenrment in July after Mr Thapa was ousted by a vote of no confidence in the National Panchayat.

Radio Nepal, quoting a royal palace announcement, said that King Birendra had made changes in the posts held by Mr Manden and three assistant ministers at the prime minister's recommendation.

Of the three assistant ministers, Bhola Man Singh Thapa has been appointed assistant to Mr Shrestha in the the Forest and Soil Conservation Ministry.

Surbir Shahi has been given moved [as received] to the Labour and Social Welfare Ministry and Tanka Bahadur Bista the Public Works and Transport Ministry.

These minor changes have sparked rumours of a major Cabinet reshuffle, observers said. They said that in the case of a reshuffle, Mr Manden and some senior ministers might be dropped from the government and replaced by some fresh blood from Mr Thapa's supporters in the National Panchayat.

SRI LANKA

Jayawardene To Visit South Korea 27 May

BK031055 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] President Jayewardene will pay a state visit to the Republic of Korea beginning on the 27th of next month. The 4-day visit follows an invitation extended by Chon Tu-hwan, president of South Korea.

Supreme Defense Council Meets 3 April

LD031652 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1638 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council met today under the chairmanship of Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council. The session discussed the situation at the war fronts and the latest developments. There was also discussion about future war plans, and the necessary decisions were made.

President's Comments

LD031954 Tehran IRNA in English 1927 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 3 IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today described the positions of the Islamic combatants of Iran in the liberated Majnun Islands as "very good and fortified" further saying that this had been proved in the recent visit of foreign journalists to these islands. He said the Baghdad government had recently flooded the southern section of the islands, that is the same area where the enemy launched several futile attacks on the first days, which act he said vividly showed the frustration of the Iraqi regime.

Speaking after a Supreme Defence Council (SDC) meet, the first in the new Iranian year (started March 21), the head of the SDC said issues relevant to the battlefronts, the Army, the IRGC [IslamicRevolution Guards Corps] and military service had been raised and agreed upon in the meeting which was also attended by the Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Joint Staff Chief Brigadier General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, IRGC Commander Mohsen Reza'i, Defence Minister Colonel Mohammad Salimi, SDC Secretary Nazaran and head of the War Information HQ. of the SDC, Dr. Kamal Kharrazi.

Praising the presence of the people's forces in the battle-fronts the president said they played a decisive role in the battlefields and in fact they shouldered a heavy burden of the war. For the future offensive operations, the president stressed, the people's forces should also be present in the warfronts.

On Security Council's condemnation of chemical warfare, without directly mentioning the name of Iraq, Khamene'i said the account of the United Nations and its secretary general was different from that of the Security Council. He said with the big powers influence in the Security Council "we did not expect more of it." He added that even this was made possible under the pressure of the world public opinion and that even the Americans were forced to deplore this act.

The SDC head said also that the employment of chemical weapons has already been condemned through the world and that the only alternative for those using these weapons and their supporters was to deny that they were employing them. Of course, the president added, this strategem was thwarted thanks to the expedience of the authorities and "our good publicity." He said the entire world was thus informed that these (chemical) weapons have been deployed in the (Iraqi) imposed war and the only way left for the instigators of the war was to deplore this act. He said some of the big powers cunningly condemned this act while certain others did not which "we believe this would be to their (the latter's) disadvantage."

Regarding those countries which are suspected to have aided Iraq in its chemical warfare against the Islamic Republic and which have not yet condemned Iraq, the idea will be seriously considered that they themselves are the agents of production and delivery of chemical weapons to Iraq, the president said.

Khamene'i Interview

LD032227 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] After the meeting of the Supreme Defense Council, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council asnwered our reporter's questions:

[Begin recording; reporter] Mr President, the Supreme Defense Council met today. Please tell us which were the most important issues discussed in this session?

[Khamene'i] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This was the first meeting of the Supreme Defense Council in the new year. Thanks be to God, it was a fruitful and useful session. First, a report was submitted about issues concerning the battle fronts and the technical and military prospects for the future, which was very good, fruitful, and useful. A number of other issues which fall within the context of the duties of the Supreme Defense Council then were discussed — the Armed Forces, the Guards Corps, and conscription — and issues which needed the decision of the Supreme Defense Council. These issues were discussed anddecisions were made concerning them, and they were very good.

[Reporter] Following the departure of the Fath I [as heard] forces, Fath II forces left for the fronts on 1 April. Please tell us what are the effects of the presence of Fath I and Fath II forces at the fronts and what use has been made of these forces?

[Khamene'i] These Fath forces, as everyone knows, are part of the vast popular volunteer forces in our battle fronts on the borders. The presence of the popular forces on the battle fronts has a decisive role. I should, in fact, say that a major part of the heavy load of war is placed upon the shoulders of the popular forces. The Fath forces have played a considerable role in this respect. Of course, our formal [as heard] operations in various parts of the fronts will continue in future, and as the front line forces should always be ready for offensive action in all the fronts, therefore, the popular forces should be present at the fronts. In the same way, concerning the previous group of Fath forces who were mobilized and sent to the fronts about 11 February or thereabouts, their presence in the fronts was very effective and useful and they demonstrated great ability. Of course, not all of them took part in operations; most of our popular forces were left intact. You know that the nature of our popular forces is such that when they are not participating in operations, they show a great deal of enthusiasm for taking part in operations and they want to achieve something. This is why, thank God, with the presence of these forces in the fronts our capability and strength

are as much as we need. These new forces which will join the fronts, will naturally be stationed in their places, in units which have been planned and organized as before. There will be duties and programs which, God willing, they will perform.

[Reporter] after the foreign correspondents visited Majnun Island, various mass media transmitted certain reports. Please let us know what is the situation in that island and the position of the fighters of Islam at the moment?

[Khamene'i] The situation of our forces in that island is one of complete control. The military positions taken in the island are strong positions, and these days the enemy has lost all hope of regaining the island. The very nature of enemy propaganda demonstrates its despair concerning regaining the island. Recently we were informed that the Iraqis flooded the southern entrance to the island — where in the early days the Iraqi forces launched their attacks and were repulsed — suffered casualties, and were forced to retreat. The Iraqis have now flooded that entrance. This means they have no hope of entering and reoccupying, and they have no other way of entering the island. Therefore, thanks be to God, our position in the island is strong. Our fortifications are very good. Our forces are fully present there, and the enemy will not be able to do anything else there.

[Reporter] In an extraordinary session which the Security Council convened to discuss Iraq's use of chemical weapons, this action was condemned but Iraq was not mentioned by name. Please, how do you regard this position taken by the Security Council?

[Khamene'i] Of course, we did not and do not expect anything more from the Security Council. One should regard the United Nations, the secretary general, and the general session differently from the Security Council in which the big powers have the ability to disrupt decisions. [as heard] This is why we have never expected the Security Council in which the big powers have great influence to take decisions in our favor. And the little which was done was due to the pressure of world public opinion. You noticed that even the Americans were forced to condemn in some way the Iraqi action. This is due to the fact that the use of chemical weapons is an illegal action which has been previously condemned and denounced by the world. The only option left for those who have used these weapons and those who have supported them is to deny it and to say: No, no such weapon has been used. However, as a result of the resourcefulness of the officials of our country and as a result of the good propaganda which, thanks be to God, was waged in this respect the entire world learned that these weapons had been used. Well, what else can be done by those who, in world public opinion, are responsible for starting this war. Naturally, they can do nothing but condemn and denounce this action and dissociate themselves from this action. This is why some big powers tried to be clever, and they condemned this action.

Others, of course, are still continuing in their negligence and their indifference and have not yet condemned Iraq. In our view, this will be contrary to their interests. Those who are suspected to have assisted Iraq, if they do not condemn Iraq this would give rise to the thought that they delivered these weapons to Iraq and that they produced those weapons for Iraq. Therefore, in our view it is unwise for those who have not yet condemned Iraq to continue in this fashion. However, the pressure of public opinion had some effect, and some of those countries who were accused of supplying those weapons to Iraq and those governments concerning whom it is proved that they have assisted Iraq ever since the beginning of the war — especially America when it became quite clear according to its own admission as well as Iraq's admission it was quite clear that they were assisting Iraq — the pressure of public opinion forced them to condemn that action.

[Reporter] Thank you very much.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,685

LD031759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,685 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Over 30 Ba'thist mercenaries were killed or wounded during a defensive battle on the Piranshah and Hajj 'Umran fronts yesterday. On the Choman-Mustafa-Darband axis, the combatants of Islam controlled enemy movements and supply activities. On those fronts, our combatants' artillery and heavy weapons fire destroyed parts of enemy defensive lines.

In the Marivan operational sector and on the Panjwin front, the fire of the combatants of Islam prevented penetration by enemy patrols and engineering activities to strengthen their positions, destroyed a truck and a crane of the Ba'thist mercenaries, and killed or wounded several enemy personnel.

At 2400 on 1 April, an enemy armored unit attempted to stage an offensive in the Sumar sector, to advance toward the defensive sectors of the combatants of Islam. The alertness and prompt fire of the forces of Islam halted their movements and pinned down the attacking enemy unit in its defensive positions.

On the rest of the western fronts, as on previous days, sporadic exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued. The powerful fire of the mighty forces of Islam crushed an enemy motor pool, an ammunition dump, two mortars and machine guns, several light and heavy weapons emplacements, and observation posts.

On the southern fronts, while maintaining firepower superiority and bringing enemy tank and artillery positions and front lines under fire, our forces silenced enemy fire and halted enemy patrol operations. Yesterday on the southern fronts, the enemy lost a vehicle carrying a 106-mm gun;several personnel and tank positions were destroyed; and several enemy personnel were killed or wounded. In the Arvand Rud sector, Gendarmerie combatants, while defending their positions, brought enemy defensive lines and the Al Faw-Basra supply route under heavy weapons fire, thus maintaining control of the Al-Faw-Basra axis; several enemy personnel were killed or injured and at least 11 trenches and foxholes were destroyed.

The heavy weapons fire of the Saddamist criminals caused losses and casualties in Abadan yesterday. Two of our dear compatriots were martyred, 38 houses and shops and parts of the city hospital were damaged, and a number of the hospital staff were injured.

UN Representative on Afghanistan Arrives

LD040934 Tehran IRNA in English 0842 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 4, IRNA — Diego Cordovez, the United Nations' special envoy on Afghanistan issue, arrived in Tehran Tuesday to talk with Iranian officials on developments on Afghanistan.

Speaking to reporters here Cordovez said that the objective of his visit was to bring Iranian officials up to date on his talks with Afghan and Pakistani officials, as well as to get their views on an acceptable solution for the Afghan situation.

He said he hoped by exchanging views with Iranian officials including Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati they would be able to find a mutually agreeable solution to all parties concerned that would lead to withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan and return of Afghan refugees to their country, and establishment of good neighborly relations with its neighbors.

Asked about the decisions of the Security Council of the United Nations on Afghanistan, Cordovez said that one of the main problems of the U.N. was that its decisions were rarely implemented.

In reply to a question concerning refusal of the Nnited Nations to explicitly condemn Iraq for deployment of chemical weapons despite the report of the U.N. fact finding delegation, Cordovez said that he was not in a position to reply to such a question, although he likened such semantics to Soviet troops presence in Afghanistan and the U.S. soldiers invasion of Grenada in which the U.N. called them "foreign troops."

The director general of international affairs of the Foreign Ministry Mr. Mahalati who welcomed Cordovez at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport told reporters that Mr. Cordovez's visit to Iran was to present proposals on Afghanistan issue to the Islamic Republic which plays a determining role in this issue.

He said Iran insists on the Muslim Afghanis ruling their own country and withdrawal of foreign forces from that country.

AFP: Islamic Group Threatens Kuwait, Embassies

NC031605 Paris AFP in English 1539 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, (AFP) — A caller claiming to represent the previously unknown organization "Islamic Association of Students of the World" has threatened Kuwait and foreign embassies there, in a phone call to the French Embassy here, a French diplomatic source said today.

The caller, who did not identify himself personally, said that if those sentenced to death in Kuwait for bomb attacks last December were not released by April 6, "bombs will be placed at the Government Palace, at security headquarters and in foreign embassies."

(He said passers-by should stay at least one kilometer (about one-half mile) away from these buildings.

(Six death sentences, three in absentia were pronounced last week in the wake of the December attacks, mainly aimed at the U.S. and French embassies.

(The three to be executed are two Iraqis and a Lebanese.

(Iranian Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri yesterday in the holy city of Qom told a group of Iraqi priests opposed to the regime in Baghdad that it "is regrettable and amazing that the Government of Kuwait, instead of defending its people and Islam faced with the regime occupying Quds (Jerusalem) and infidels like the United States and France storms against Moslems who fight against the enemies of Islam through Islamic obligation."

(Shortly after the attacks, Kuwait said the Teheran-based Iraqi opposition group Al-Dawa was responsible. Iran and spokesmen for Al-Dawa have denied any link with the attacks.)

Jerusalem Operation Termed 'Heroic, Daring'

Arabic Commentary

GF032007 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The Jerusalem operation carried out by one of the Palestinian resistance factions was the first step on the way to restoring dignity and destroying the plan to turn Jerusalem into the capital of the extraneous Zionist entity. This operation came following the raging demonstrations a few days ago, which shook the occupied territory on the annual observation of Land Day.

The revolutionary expansion resumed on 30 March, and yesterday, a horrible explosion which aimed at a number of Zionist establishments took place. Once again, this brave operation proved that the Palestinian revolution has not died, despite all the efforts which have been exerted by the Zionist, U.S., and even Palestinian sides. It proved that the revolution factions are capable of striking at any goal which the strategy of the resistance defines and that they are capable of destroying every Zionist equation which wants to impose sovereignty in the occupied territory.

This heroic operation of the Palestinian people proved that the only way to shake the racist Zionist entity and to halt every conspiratorial plan is through the gun.

This operation unveiled the extent of the treachery of some Palestinian leaders against the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people's cause and how they are following a line which deviates from the will of this people and their desire for a free life with dignity and honor. It also proved to the U.S. policymakers and the U.S. elections candidates that every decision which infringes on the Islamic nation's dignity and confiscates its holy places extracts a high price, that there are two strong steps which threaten the Zionist and U.S. interests in the region and everywhere taken in return for every step of the

enemy, and that the conspiracy will be severely punished. It alsoaffirmed to all the competitors in the U.S. elections that the Islamic holy places are not a bargaining card and that whoever uses them as currency in the election market will receive nothing but disappointment and loss. If today, Tuesday — day of the Democrats competition in New York, where the Zionist pressure groups are concentrated — is the key to the presidential election, then the incidents of yesterday will rekindle the memory of the link between the Islamic sanctities and the competition for the presidential chair in the White House.

Let everyone — Americans, Zionists, and others — know that the Islamic revolutionary pressure is much stronger than the pressure of the U.S. and other groups and that the bullet which is fired in Jerusalem will be stronger than a million votes in the pocket of the U.S. presidential candidates. The fate of the entire world today depends on arms which have the say and not on the number of votes and not even on the number of tanks, missiles, nuclear submarines, and satellites.

Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution

GF031255 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 0750 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] In a statement broadcast by Israel radio last night, Yosef Burg, interior minister of the infidel Jewish enemy's entity, accused the Islamic Republic of being behind the daring attack waged by a number of fedayeen against the Zionists at noon yesterday at the center of the occupied Jerusalem. Burg stated that the fedayeen came from Lebanon and are extremist terrorists according to his description. A group of fedayeen attacked with grenades and light arms the Zionists in an important location in Jerusalem. They clashed with the Zionists for over 10 minutes and inflicted over 50 casualties in their ranks. At the same time, one of the attackers was wounded and his martyrdom was declared later. This heroic operation was described as the most daring one carried out inside the occupied territories against the Jewish enemy in several years.

Khomeyni's Son Meets Ambassador to Syria

LD031714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] On behalf of Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni [the imam's son] met Mr 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to Syria, who recently returned to Tehran, in his house. During the meeting,Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni conveyed his holiness the imam's greetings and kind regards to Mr Mohtashemi.

Positions on Iraqi Chemical Weapons Use Viewed

GF040757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0440 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Use of Chemical Weapons by Iraqi Regime and Security Council"]

[Excerpts] As you are aware, last Friday the UN Security Council officially took a position on the issue of the use of chemical weapons in the imposed war. Of course, even though the Security Council was forced to issue a verdict, it does not in any way satisfy everyone or convince everyone that it is impartial on international issues as it claims to be. The resolution by the Security Council condemns the use of chemical weapons against Iranian forces without referring to Iraq. Of course, everyone knows that there are no other forces "officially" participating in the fronts of the imposed war other than those of the Iraqi regime and thus it is the Saddam regime which has resorted to this open criminal act.

So far, the Iraqi regime has strongly denied the use of these weapons. However, considering the proof at hand, which includes the recent babblings of the Iraqi commanders, there is no doubt that even the Iraqis have implicitly confessed to this. For example, a mercenary commander of the enemy army named Mahir 'Abd ar-Rashid, in an interview with an Arab magazine, recently announced that he had not allowed the Iranian forces to capture even one square inch of the Majnun Islands. He also stated: We have special weapons which can halt any major push. When asked about the type of weapon by the correspondent, he replied that it would become known in the future.

What is worthy of further discussion is the fact that the Western countries condemned the use of the chemical weapons more than others and even officially announced Iraq as the responsible party before the resolution was issued by the Security Council. It is clear that the Western world is not the least bit concerned about our people or our warriors and always bears the point in mind that the Islamic Revolution of Iran has dealt the gravest blows to its economic interests. On the other hand, everyone knows that the Iraqi regime started the imposed war at the encouragement of the Western world. Considering all these, when we see the very decisive stance, compared to the East, taken over the use of chemical weapons by Iraq, we immediately wonder why. The truth of the matter is that the Western world has been issuing a great deal of propaganda against the use of chemical weapons. The majority in the West, except the United States, has announced adherence to the 1925 Geneva Convention.

When it became clear that the Iraqi regime has used such weapons, the Western world had no alternative but to condemn it even though it does not like to take a position which is disadvantageous to Iraq. However, had it not condemned this act then it would have gone against all of its own past propaganda. So if we hear reports that, let us say that the U.S. State Department has condemned this act or has banned shipment of certain chemicals to Iraq, these are basically the continuation of

the established propaganda line and have nothing to do with a new analysis of the nature of the Iraqi regime or the imposed war. Meanwhile, the Eastern bloc and especially the Soviet Union have preferred silence. Even though the recent decision by the Security Council to condemn the matter, considering the Soviet Union's membership in the council, shows neither the Soviet official position nor those of others. The Soviet Union would be facing a contradiction if it were to announce a position against Iraq, since in 1982 when the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to condemn the use of chemical weapons the Soviet representative did not cast a vote in its favor. With respect to the recent crimes of Iraq, a Soviet representative in the United Nations complained about the trip by the UN special delegation to our country, attempting to cloak it in official jargon by asking why the secretary general had not held prior discussions with the members of the Security Council. Aside from the Soviet Union, the Yugoslav Government recently announced that it cannot announce its official position since it still has not yet received sufficient information to make a judgment on the report by the UN delegation.

It is interesting also to note the position taken by the Nonaligned Movement and the Arab and Islamic governments. The Nonaligned Movement has yet to issue an official position statement. The Arab League and Islamic leaders, who have also issued many resolutions in favor of Iraq to date, have tried, in a ridiculous manner, to unburden responsibilities. Habib Chatti and Chedli Kilibi have tried to downgrade the importance of the matter by going to this or that country. For example, the conference of Arab foreign ministers in Baghdad last month tried to unburden the load of condemnation for the Saddam regime by stressing and supporting the supposedly peace-loving nature of the regime.

The foreign minister of Kuwait also recently started a series of visits to Paris, London, and Washington to meet officials and discuss the imposed war. It thus becomes clear that the aim of the reactionary Arab regimes at this stage is to downgrade the criminal actions of the Saddam regime to reduce the pressure of the world public opinion and also to prevent the defeated face of the Iraqi regime from becoming known.

However, it is certain that such a trick will not be successful since the dimensions of the world public opinion against the extensive crimes of the Saddam regime is so large that no game can hide it or reduce the level of condemnation against it. It should be noted that what matters to us is the condemnation of the use of chemical weapons by Iraq by world public opinion. Even though the position taken by the United Nations or the Security Council can play a role in this, considering the uselessness of the Security Council's resolutions on Palestine or Lebanon, one can guess that even if the council had mentioned Iraq by name or condemned it more decisively, the Saddam regime could not be stopped from continuing its crimes.

What is cause for hope is that such instruments will make the people of the world understand the nature of the criminals ruling Iraq and their thought process; the criminals who cannot be punished for their crimes except after military defeat and final collapse.

Expellees From Kuwait Cite Imprisonment, Torture

LD031552 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Shiraz, April 3, IRNA — Another group of 14 Iranians expelled from Kuwait after suffering from maltreatment, imprisonment, and torture by the Kuwaiti officials arrived here Monday night.

The deportees who had lived for more than 20 to 30 years in the sheikhdom were charged with supporting the Islamic Republic of Iran, and were expelled to Iran along with their families.

An Iranian deportee talking to IRNA, said that during the 25 days in Kuwaiti prison, he was kept in cold water and whipped all over his body, by Kuwaiti officials.

Another expelled Iranian said contrary to the international laws and despite his 27 years of domicile in Kuwait and after resisting severe tortures, he was finally expelled from Kuwait along with his family.

He further said that he was not even permitted to transfer his property nor was he allowed to dispose of his house and belongings.

NVOI on Turkish Warplane Attacks on Kurdish Regions

TA032026 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Turkey's Coupist Regime — Associate and Ally of Islamic Government"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Some time ago, the warplanes of Turkey's coupist regime reportedly attacked the positions of Kurdish patriots in the vicinity of Mahabad and Sar Dasht and bombed the innocent and unarmed Kurdish people. Reliable sources reported that during these air attacks by the Turkish regime's warplanes, which consisted of eight sorties, a large number of our Kurdish compatriots — men, women, and children — were killed, wounded, and made homeless. These same sources pointed out that the Turkish regime's air attacks were launched in agreement with the Islamic regime ruling in our homeland. With this barbarous act, Turkey's American coupist regime allegedly demonstrated its friendship and amity with Iran's Islamic regime.

It is no secret to anyone that Turkey's coupist regime is entirely dependent on world-devouring U.S. imperialism. Any deed or crime that this regime perpetrates is carried out with the agreement of its American masters. The Turkish regime is a member of the aggressive and imperialist NATO alliance. With the victory of the Iranian nation's revolution, the member-states of this alliance adopted — and still maintain — a hostile stance toward this revolution.

As we know, Turkey's regime, which is the same as Pakistan's American military regime, was a member of the imperialist CENTO pact during the period of the treacherous shah's

despised rule. The Iranian nation's anti-imperialist revolution destroyed the foundation of that pact, thus dealing a fatal blow to the satanic plans of the U.S. and British imperialists in the region. For this reason, the Turkish regime's hostility toward the Iranian nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution is not accidental. Since the very first days of the Iranian Revolution's victory, the Turkish regime adopted — and still maintains — a hostile stance toward this revolution.

As long as the superstitious Islamic rulers had not seized complete power and as long as the government, following the revolution — under pressure by our homeland's toiling and anti-imperialist masses — whether willingly or unwillingly adopted an anti-imperialist stance, the Turkish regime was a partner and participated in all the plots and conspiracies of the imperialists, the counterrevolution, and the monarchists against the Iranian Revolution and its gains. In this same Turkey, the Americans, with the consent of that country's coupist regime, established several camps for the stationing and training of fugitive Iranian counterrevolutionaries and monarchists, and prepared these bands to launch an attack against revolutionary Iran. It was for this reason that Ayatollah Khomeyni called Turkey's regime an American regime which was produced by a U.S. coup.

Since that time not the slightest change has occurred in the Turkish regime's actions, attitude, and nature toward our people and our nation's revolution. Turkey's regime has remained a member of the NATO alliance and has not refrained from its hostility toward Iran's popular and anti-imperialist revolution. The only thing that has changed is that the leaders of the Islamic regime, by removing the mask of demagoguery, have renounced the revolution and the Iranian nation, and have gradually taken steps toward closer ties with Turkey's regime — a regime which at one time was condemned by Ayatollah Khomeyni as an American regime.

At present, the ties of friendship between the Iranian and Turkish regimes are so firm that the Turkish regime's warplanes, by violating our homeland's airspace, are bombing within our own country the homes and havens of the patriotic Kurdish people who are demanding their indisputable and ethnic rights and against whom the Islamic regime is impotent, thus dragging our compatriots in dust and blood. Of course, the Turkish regime is claiming that it has allegedly pursued the Kurdish revolutionaries who live in Turkey into Iranian territory and that it bombed their positions. However, this excuse is worse than a crime and cannot justify the crimes of the Turkish regime and its Iranian associates.

Iran is an independent country. It is not an American or Turkish protectorate so that whenever the Turkish regime so desires it can violate its airspace, bomb our homeland's people, and drown them in blood. The thing that has caused the intense indignation and hatred of our homeland's people is that not only has the Islamic regime not made the slightest protest over the aggression by its associate regime in Turkey against Iran and over the dragging of the innocent Kurdish people in dust and blood, but has maintained complete silence in this connection. This indicates that the aggression by Turkey's regime against Iranian territory in Kordestan was carried out with the knowledge of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers. It seems that the massacres by the Islamic Republic's rulers in our country do not alleviate their thirst for bloodshed, therefore the gentlemen have also requested assistance and help from Turkey's regime to shed the people's blood. Our homeland's people strongly condemn the crimes and aggression of the Turkish regime against the Kurdish people, as well as the Islamic regime's silence in the face of this aggression and crimes. They ask the Islamic regime to inform the people of the entire country about its criminal collusion with Turkey's coupist regime, and inevitably with America.